

Message Text

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AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

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TAGS: EMIN, SG

SUBJ: POSSIBLE RISE IN PRICE OF SENEGALESE PHOSPHATE

1. ON THE HEELS OF RECENT TRIPLING OF PHOSPHATE PRICES BY MOROCCO AND TUNISIA, GOVERNMENT OF SENEGAL SPOKESMAN ANNOUNCED THAT SENEGAL "IN THE MANNER OF MOROCCO, SENEGAL WOULD PROFIT FROM THE CURRENT SITUATION...SENEGAL WILL ATTEMPT TO SELL ITS PHOSPHATE ACCORDING TO THE CAPRICES OF THE WORLD MARKET." THUS BELIEVE THAT WITHIN NEXT FEW WEEKS SENEGAL WILL FORMALLY ANNOUNCE SIMILAR PRICE RISE TO THAT OF MOROCCO AND TUNISIA.

2. SENEGAL EXPORTED 284 MILLION TONS CALCIUM PHOSPHATE AND 165 THOUSAND TONS ALUMINUM PHOSPHATE IN 1972. AMERICAN FIRM INTERNATIONAL MINERALS AND CHEMICAL CORP OF SKOKIE ILLINOIS IS MINORITY OWNER OF ONLY CALCIUM PHOSPHATE MINING COMPANY IN SENEGAL. AS PHOSPHATES PRODUCE APPROXIMATELY 10 PER CENT OF SENEGAL'S EXPORT EARNINGS, PRICE RISE WOULD BE SIGNIFICANT BOOST TO ECONOMY.
PERKINS

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